

[MUSIC]

Stories of...

Safer

Stronger

Communities

ICP Awards

Outstanding Individual and Community Preparedness

Outstanding Achievement in Youth Preparedness:

Alabama Be Ready Camp

Brooke Mills: Alabama Be Ready Camp is a statewide preparedness camp for youth, for sixth graders all across the State in Alabama.

They go through a modified CERT training, so we have first responders that come in and teach the classes. The staff at the space and rocket center is trained to teach classes, local emergency management. The Madison County Emergency Management Agency is a huge partner.

At the end of the week the students go through a mock disaster where they become the first responders.

It brings out things inside of them that they didn't know. They may be a leader, that they haven't had the chance to lead. And so this has brought out the opportunity.

Alabama has a lot of disasters. Many disasters. Specifically, 2011 we had a huge tornado outbreak, over two-thirds of the State was affected by, on this one day, by the tornadoes and over 200 lives lost that day. So it was a traumatic event for our State. It wasn't the first and I know it won't be the last. Knowing that we have specifically youth that are going out and telling others how to be prepared ...

They are good to tell their parents, you know, "Mom, we have to make a plan, we have to make a plan," to where their parents are going to want to make a plan.

They're excited to go tell their friends what all they did at camp—the exciting things that they did—and share with their classmates and even go out into their community and share what they did.

We know that that is going to in the end save lives.

[MUSIC]

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FEMA